

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 16 and amend claims 1-15 and 16-20 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A process for ~~long-term~~ prolonging *in vivo* expression of a transgene from a delivered expression ~~vector~~ cassette, comprising:
 - a) providing the expression cassette comprising the transgene operably linked to a promoter;
 - [[a]] b) ~~making~~ forming a non-viral, linear DNA vector comprising a DNA ~~the~~ expression cassette ~~encoding the transgene, and; and,~~
 - [[b]] c) delivering the non-viral, linear DNA vector to a ~~cell~~ hepatocyte in a mammal,wherein providing the expression cassette on the non-viral, linear DNA vector results in prolonging expression of the transgene in the hepatocyte persists for an extended period of time.
2. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains blunt ends.
3. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains sticky ends.
4. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains a blunt end and a sticky end.
5. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~linear nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is generated by restriction enzyme digestion.
6. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~linear nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is generated by polymerase chain reaction.
7. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains an expression cassette isolated from a plasmid backbone.
8. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains an expression cassette which is flanked by sequence derived from inner Tn5 transposase recognition elements.

9. (currently amended) The process of claim 8, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector ends are blunt.
10. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains an expression cassette which is flanked by sequence derived from ~~inner~~ outer Tn5 transposase recognition elements.
11. (currently amended) The process of claim 10, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector ends are blunt.
12. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector contains an expression cassette which is flanked by chimeric ends derived from Tn5 transposase recognition elements.
13. (currently amended) The process of claim 12, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector ends are blunt.
14. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is delivered to cells intravascularly.
15. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector are delivered intravascularly using pressure.
16. (canceled)
17. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the ~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is delivered by direct interstitial injection.
18. (currently amended) A process for ~~long term~~ prolonging *in vivo* expression of a transgene from a delivered expression vector, comprising:
 - a) generating a non-viral, linear DNA vector comprising a DNA expression cassette ~~to express~~ encoding the transgene; and,
 - b) delivering the linear DNA vector to a mammalian cell *in vivo*; and,
 - e) wherein delivery to the cell of the linear DNA vector provides for prolonging expressing of the transgene for an extended period of time in the cell.
19. (currently amended) The ~~process~~ expression vector of claim 18, wherein the ~~linear nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is prepared by restriction enzyme digestion.

20. (currently amended) The ~~process~~ expression vector of claim 18, wherein the ~~linear~~
~~nucleic acid~~ non-viral, linear DNA vector is prepared by polymerase chain reaction.